

~~1. Mr. Molyneux Party Agent~~
~~2. Dr. Martin A413.~~
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CHESTERTON RURAL DISTRICT

in the

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

for

1962

J. DRUMMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health,
Chesterton Rural District Council,
Shire Hall,
Cambridge.

Tel. No.: Cambridge 58811

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GENERAL STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area: Land	111,692 Acres
Number of Parishes	52
Rateable Value (1.4.63)	£1,353,363
Sum represented by a penny rate	£5,585
Number of inhabited houses (1.4.63)	15,313
Estimated mid year Home Population (1962)	46,970
Census Population 1961	44,341

The district is of a mixed urban and rural nature with the villages near Cambridge acting largely as a dormitory area for the city.

Birth Rate 18.2
(Corrected) 18.8

Death Rate 10.1
(Corrected) 9.2

Infant Mortality
Rate 7.0

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor T. B. Robinson

Vice-Chairman: Councillor P. F. King, M.B.E., M.A.

Councillors:

J. A. Alexander	D. F. R. Missen
B. H. Abel	Maj.-Gen. T. C. Newton
H. Allgood	C. A. Norman
W. H. Austin	M. S. Pease
Col. C. R. Bennett	Mrs. M. Peel-Yates
J. T. Boorman	Mrs. D. Pemberton
Mrs. M. Brown	W. F. Robinson
C. W. H. Cole	J. E. Smith
H. G. Currington	H. K. Stroude
F. W. Flinders	Rev. A. B. Swallow
Mrs. D. F. Hall	R. W. Thulborn
Mrs. E. W. E. Hartley	C. H. Tilbrook
P. N. J. Hopkins	Mrs. D. Turkentine
Mrs. M. Hurrell	H. G. Waddelow
J. Jopling	D. L. Walker
Mrs. M. V. E. Lewin	E. J. Walkling
G. A. Lewis	S. W. Wilkin
G. M. Macfarlane-Grieve	S. L. C. Wordingham
P. H. Mander	Mrs. M. M. M. Wolfe
Mrs. M. I. Middleton	R. Barker

Staff:

Medical Officer of Health	— J. Drummond, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	— E. B. Newman, A.R.S.H., F.P.H.I.A., A.M.I.P.H.E.
	— N. D. Addison, A.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A., A.M.I.P.H.E.
District Inspectors	{ J. Holford, M.R.S.H.
	{ P. E. L. Reed, M.P.H.I.A.
Clerk	— Miss J. Wilson

To the Chairman and Members
of the
Chesterton Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1962, prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 2/63, dated 28th April, 1963.

Vital Statistics

The increase in population of the area continued unabated during 1962 with an estimated increase of 1,590, i.e. 3.5%. There is no doubt that the district remains the most favoured one in the county with a ring of dormitory villages surrounding the city.

The birth rate and death rate remained virtually unchanged, but the infant mortality rate fell dramatically to 7 per thousand, less than a third of the national average of 22.7. In my report for 1961, in commenting on the then low figure of 14.3, I pointed out an unexplained biennial swing in the infant mortality rate. However, in 1962, instead of rising as one would anticipate, the rate has halved itself. While it has long been the pattern for the infant mortality rate of the area to be below the national average, it is not to be expected that this year's very low figure will be continued in future years.

Infectious Diseases

There is little in the notifications of infectious diseases which needs special comment other than the small outbreak of typhoidal fever which resulted in the death of one of the patients. As is so often the case at the present time, the infection was contracted when the patients were on holiday abroad.

Again, it is with satisfaction that I can report no cases of poliomyelitis occurred during the year, and that the number of cases of tuberculosis on the register continues to fall steadily.

Sanitary Circumstances

It is difficult, in fact wellnigh impossible, to think of anything encouraging to say about the progress of the slum clearance and housing programme.

The fact that some 284 unfit homes remain to be dealt with, that there are 910 approved applicants on the council's housing list and that during the past three years only 56 dwellings have been completed, speaks very much for itself.

One cannot help feeling that a crash housing programme, comprehensively planned and staged, is required if any substantial headway is to be made within the foreseeable future. This programme could be similar to the one devised two years ago for the sewerage of the villages and is now being most successfully put into effect.

It is not without satisfaction that it can be reported that, during the year, the schemes for the sewerage of Stapleford and Cottenham were completed and it is anticipated that consent to proceed with the schemes for Longstanton, Over, Swavesey, Willingham, Landbeach and Waterbeach is expected during 1963, while the schemes for Hauxton, Harston and Haslingfield have been submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for approval. To sum up, one-third of the houses in the area are now connected to a public sewer and schemes are in hand or in active preparation for extending this amenity to another one-third.

Although one must regret the fact that control of the water undertakings has passed from the council, it is not without relief that at last a comprehensive scheme for the whole area can now be undertaken. The multiplicity of small water undertakings throughout the country has always been a source of inefficiency and waste and will continue to be so until all water becomes a national undertaking similar to electricity or gas. One immediate result of the local amalgamation however is to be the abandoning of the Willingham well with its dangerously high nitrate content and inadequate supply, and the substitution of a new trunk main. It is of interest to note that in the Medical Officer of Health's report for 1892 Willingham is quoted as "the place in the most precarious state in regard to the water supply" and again, in the report for 1902, "Willingham still remains in the same unsatisfactory state as mentioned in many past reports". The shades of these earlier writers may now rest in peace.

Although the annual cost of £20,000 for refuse collection may seem high, it must be realised that this permits of a weekly collection from one-third of the houses in the area. As many more villages, at present only having a fortnightly collection, are reaching a state of development and urbanisation where a weekly collection is essential, further expenditure cannot be long delayed. It has long been the cry of many rural councils that refuse should be burned by the individual householders, but such a procedure would be completely impracticable in an urban estate of modern houses which have grates and boilers unsuitable for the burning of refuse and small gardens which would make burning an unbearable nuisance.

Since the introduction of the new Caravan Act much work has been done by the public health department to bring caravan sites in the district up to the agreed standard. Further impetus was given to this work by the Council instructing the department to prepare plans for a caravan site to be controlled and run by the Council. This will relieve pressure on existing sites and enable the emergency cases to be catered for without recourse to unsatisfactory parking on unlicensed sites.

As this, my last report, will have been prepared after leaving the council's service and will be presented by my successor, Dr. Sylvester, I would like to record my appreciation of the loyal support I received during my years of service with the council from Mr. Newman, the district inspectors and all other members of the staff of the public health department.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES DRUMMOND.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

(The mid-year home population is used for the statistical calculations.)

Live Births

							Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	418	410	828
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	8	28
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	438	418	856

Birth rate per thousand estimated population	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.2
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (1.03)	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.8
Birth rate per thousand population (England and Wales)	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.0

Still Births

							Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	4	10
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	2	2
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	6	12

Rate per thousand live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.8
Rate per thousand live and still births (England and Wales)	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.1

		Male	Female	Total
Deaths		232	243	475
Death rate per thousand estimated population	..	..	..	10.1
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.91)	..	..	..	9.2
Death rate per thousand population (England and Wales)	..	..	..	11.9

Infant Mortality. Deaths of infants under one year of age.

							Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	5(4)	1(1)	6(5)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	5(4)	1(1)	6(5)

(Deaths of infants under four weeks of age are shown in brackets: all were under one week of age.)

Infant Mortality Rate. (Infant deaths under one year per thousand live births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.0
Infant Mortality Rate. (England and Wales)	..	..	..	..	..	..	21.4
Neonatal Mortality Rate. (Infant deaths under four weeks per thousand live births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.8
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate. (Infant deaths under one week per thousand live births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate. (Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per thousand live and still births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	19.6
Legitimate Infant mortality rate per thousand legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.2
Illegitimate Infant mortality rate per thousand illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.3%
Maternal Deaths. (Deaths ascribed to pregnancy, childbirth and abortion)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per thousand live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	95
Deaths from tuberculosis (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Deaths from whooping cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Deaths from influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

CERTAIN COMPARATIVE RATES

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
*Birth Rate	15.2	15.8	14.7	15.4	15.7	17.7	17.6	18.3	18.6	18.5	18.2
*Death Rate	10.0	10.5	11.0	11.3	12.0	11.1	11.2	11.3	11.1	10.5	10.1
Infant Mortality Rate	20.1	11.2	15.2	11.3	18.6	13.5	24.1	12.7	20.7	14.3	7.0
	(12)	(7)	(9)	(7)	(12)	(10)	(18)	(10)	(17)	(12)	(6)

*These rates are uncorrected. The figures in brackets are the number of infant deaths in each year.

TABLE CLASSIFYING DEATHS UNDER AGE GROUPS

<i>Ages</i>						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	6
1 and under 2	..	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
2 and under 5	..	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
5 and under 15	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
15 and under 25	..	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
25 and under 35	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
35 and under 45	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	10
45 and under 55	..	..	..	..	..	18	16	34
55 and under 65	..	..	..	..	..	46	28	74
65 and under 75	..	..	..	..	..	67	54	121
75 and over	..	..	..	..	..	86	135	221
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	232	243	475

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Medical Officer of Health

“ The Cambridgeshire United District (Medical Officer of Health) Order, 1951 ” provides for the appointment of a medical officer of health to the Chesterton, Newmarket and South Cambridgeshire Rural District Councils.

Under the present arrangements this officer is also appointed deputy county and school medical officer to the Cambridgeshire County Council.

Public Health Inspectors

Mr. E. B. Newman remains as Chief Public Health Inspector, with Mr. N. D. Addison, Mr. J. Holford and Mr. P. E. L. Reed to assist him.

Laboratory Facilities

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of water are made by the Public Analyst at Cambridge. The Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, undertakes bacteriological and biological examinations of milk and bacteriological examinations of water samples, and all necessary examinations in cases of infectious diseases.

Hospitals

Cases of infectious disease are treated at the Isolation Hospital, Cambridge. So far as general hospitals are concerned, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, deals with the majority of cases from this area. The only hospitals in the area are the Mental Hospital at Fulbourn and that for the treatment of tuberculosis and other thoracic conditions in connection with the Papworth Village Settlement.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (Infectious Disease) REGULATIONS, 1953.

Under these Regulations a special provision is made to facilitate the investigation and control of outbreaks of 'Food Poisoning' (which includes typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever, or other salmonella infection, dysentery and staphylococcal infection likely to cause food poisoning) in that (a) the existing provisions regarding the prevention of a person suffering from a food poisoning infection from continuing in or entering into an occupation connected with the preparation and handling of food or drink are now extended to include 'carriers' of food poisoning infections, (b) local authorities may authorise their medical officer of health to issue on their behalf notices where required to effect (a) immediately if he thinks it necessary and then report such action to his Authority as soon as possible.

Such Authority has been given to the medical officer of health but has not so far had occasion to be used.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS 1962

Age in Years	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis		Measles	Diphtheria	Dysentery	Totals
			Paralytic	Non Paralytic				
Under 1 year	—	2	—	—	10	—	2	14
1—	1	1	—	—	29	—	3	34
2—	3	3	—	—	50	—	2	58
3—	6	1	—	—	54	—	3	64
4—	6	—	—	—	57	—	2	65
5—9	23	4	—	—	220	—	5	252
10—14	1	—	—	—	45	—	4	50
15—25	—	—	—	—	8	—	1	9
25 and over	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	4
Age Unknown	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Totals	42	11	—	—	474	—	25	552
1961 Totals	22	63	—	—	613	—	1	699

Age in Years	Acute Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Typhoid Fever	Total
Under 5	—	1	4	—	—	—	5
5—14	3	1	4	—	—	2	10
15—44	1	1	6	1	—	2	11
45—64	1	2	—	—	—	1	4
65 and over	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Age Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	5	14	1	—	5	32
1961 Totals	9	6	27	2	—	—	44

TUBERCULOSIS

Thirteen respiratory cases were notified for the first time during the year and two non-respiratory. Five respiratory cases, previously notified in other areas, were transferred to the district. On balance at the end of the year the number of persons on the respiratory register decreased by twenty-nine.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER 1962

	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1. Number of cases on register at commencement of year	121	76	5	7	126	83
2. Number of cases notified for first time during the year under regulations	10	3	2	—	12	3
3. Cases restored to register	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Cases added to register otherwise than by notification under regulations						
(a) Transferred from other Districts	2	3	—	—	2	3
(b) From Death Returns	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Number of cases removed from register	25	22	1	2	26	24
6. Number of cases remaining on register at end of year	108	60	6	5	114	65

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION RESPIRATORY AND NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS CASES ON REGISTER 31.12.62

AGE GROUP	Male		Female		Total		GRAND TOTAL
	Resp.	Non Resp.	Resp.	Non Resp.	Resp.	Non Resp.	
0—15	—	1	2	1	2	2	4
15—25	11	2	7	—	18	2	20
25—35	10	1	17	—	27	1	28
35—45	27	—	18	2	45	2	47
45—55	37	—	9	2	46	2	48
55—65	14	—	2	—	16	—	16
65 and over	9	2	5	—	14	2	16
TOTALS	108	6	60	5	168	11	179

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47

No action was necessary during the year under this section.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 50

No burials were effected during the year under the provisions of this section.

REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E. B. NEWMAN

F.P.H.I.A., A.M.P.H.E.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(Mr. E. B. Newman, F.P.H.I.A., A.M.P.H.E.)

The following is a summary of inspections carried out during 1962:—

TOTAL INSPECTIONS RECORDED	10,319
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General Sanitation

Sewage Scheme Surveys	2,398
Miscellaneous visits re complaints, etc.	502
Visits re drainage or sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,246
Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	359
Water Samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	196
Factories Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	87
Visits re verminous persons or property	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Public cleansing visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	220
Shops Acts, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	254
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Swimming Pools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Burial Grounds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
National Assistance Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14

Inspection of Food and Food Premises

Visits re sampling (milk and other foods)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Visits to slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	523
Butchers Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	89
Preserved Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(1) Sausage manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	139
(2) Fried fish shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Ice cream premises (retailers)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Cafes and restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	54
Other food premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	207
Bake-houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Licensed premises (public houses, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	101
Clubs (Licensing Act)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26

Housing

Housing inspections (P.H.A. 1936)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
Reinspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	102
Housing inspections (Housing Acts)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	378
Reinspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	413
Moveable dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	615
Inspections re standard grants	116

Infectious Diseases

Visits and enquiries	991
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HOUSING

1. Total number of houses erected by the Council between 1920 and 1939 1,320

2. Post war housing progress:—

		<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Non-Traditional</i>	<i>Prefabs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Dwellings completed in	1946	18	—	5	23
"	1947	52	16	45	113
"	1948	77	10	—	87
"	1949	21	70	—	91
"	1950	115	—	—	115
"	1951	133	—	—	133
"	1952	106	—	—	106
"	1953	184	—	—	184
"	1954	229	70	—	299
"	1955	121	28	—	149
"	1956	90	—	—	90
"	1957	102	—	—	102
"	1958	69	—	—	69
"	1959	126	—	—	126
"	1960	14	—	—	14
"	1961	18	—	—	18
"	1962	24	—	—	24
Totals		1,499	194	50	1,743

These figures are exclusive of conversions into flats and conversions of hutments.

Total number of dwellings completed up to 31.3.63:—

Prefabricated Bungalows	..	50
Bungalows	.. ..	329
Flats	.. ..	49
Non-Traditional Houses	..	174
Hut conversions (now demolished)		225
Permanent Houses	.. ..	1,141
Total	.. ..	1,968

Dwellings in course of erection or contracts prepared:—

Permanent Houses	.. ..	6
Bungalows	.. ..	50
Flats	.. ..	Nil
Total		56

3. Private Development

Number of houses built by private enterprise during 1962:—

Permanent Houses	.. ..	387
Flats	.. ..	23
Total		410

Total number of private dwellings erected post war 2,788

4. Slum Clearance

The Council's original slum clearance schedule was prepared in 1956 and at that time 703 unfit houses were listed. It was intended that these should be dealt with within five years. Progress up to 31st March, 1963 is indicated in Table No. 1, which also shows the parish distribution.

It will be noted that in the seven years which have elapsed, the total number of unfit houses has been increased to 899 of which 416 have been demolished or are the subjects of operative demolition orders. 88 have been closed or have been made the subject of statutory undertakings and 111 have been reconditioned and removed from the schedule.

A total of 284 unfit dwellings remain to be dealt with from which it is estimated that 229 families will require rehousing (177 or 77% of which are single elderly persons or childless couples).

It may be said that the progress of the Department has been reasonably satisfactory in that two thirds of the listed properties have been dealt with but the position with regard to the rehousing of the tenants presents a less happy picture.

For the past three years the Council has built a total of 56 houses only (14 in 1960, 18 in 1961 and 24 in 1962) all represented to the Ministry for slum clearance but not necessarily utilised for this purpose. A further 56 dwellings are under construction or contract at the time of writing and it will be obvious that little effective slum clearance can be undertaken on this basis. It is not uncommon for unfit houses already the subjects of operative Demolition Orders to remain occupied for four or five years after condemnation, which is demoralising for the tenant and unfair to the landlords. It also detracts from the effectiveness of the Department's work. In these circumstances there is little purpose in making further Demolition Orders, at least until such time as there is reasonable prospect of rehousing the tenants.

The development of the Cottenham site has not yet been commenced, notwithstanding the fact that 36 dwellings have already been condemned for nearly three years and action on a further 20 is awaited.

In order to expedite new house building as much as possible the Council entrusted the development of a large site at Grantchester to private architects some 18 months ago, but at the time of writing the work has not reached contract stage.

All this makes a somewhat depressing picture which becomes even more serious when it is appreciated that at the 31st March, 1963 there were a total of 910 approved applicants on the Council's Housing List, with little hope of early rehousing.

The following figures summarise the action taken by the Public Health Department during the year ending 31.12.62:—

Houses inspected	433
Reinspections made	515
Demolition Orders made	4
Houses demolished	36
Undertakings accepted	4
Closing Orders made	4
Closing Orders lifted	9
Houses made fit	73

Since the introduction of the Housing Act, 1930 the following total action has been taken up to 31.12.62:—

Houses demolished	707
Houses demolished voluntarily	77
Houses subject to undertakings	92
Houses or parts closed	101
Houses made fit by statutory action	33
Houses made fit by informal action	1,474

TABLE NO. 1
SLUM CLEARANCE AT 31.3.63
(All houses in 1956 Slum Clearance Schedule)

Parishes	Total	Demolished or Demolition Order	Closing Order	Repaired	Remainder
Barton	8	5	—	—	3
Bourn	22	5	3	6	8
Boxworth	9	9	—	—	—
Caldecote	38	15	1	4	18
Caxton	15	4	1	6	4
Childerley	—	—	—	—	—
Comberton	14	6	1	7	—
Conington	—	—	—	—	—
Coton	15	5	4	—	6
Cottenham	80	40	10	1	29
Croxton	6	—	1	—	5
Dry Drayton	8	—	4	3	1
Elsworth	19	13	2	3	1
Eltisley	9	2	1	1	5
Fen Ditton	15	3	—	4	8
Fen Drayton	19	16 *	—	3	—
Fulbourn	51	23	1	15	12 *
Girton	12	6	2	2	2
Grantchester	19	12	1	5	1
Graveley	3	—	—	1	2
Hardwick	20	8	—	4	8
Harlton	11	8	2	—	1
Harston	38	3	—	7	28
Haslingfield	16	14	1	—	1
Hauxton	11	10	—	—	1
Histon	45	23	4	—	18
Horningsea	17	3	11	—	3
Impington	2	1	—	—	1
Knapwell	—	—	—	—	—
Landbeach	20	7	4	—	9
Lolworth	8	8	—	—	—
Longstanton	18	8	3	2	5
Madingley	—	—	—	—	—
Milton	18	8	1	3	6
Newton	4	3	—	—	1
Oakington	8	3	1	1	3
Over	33	17	1	3	12
Papworth Everard	2	2	—	—	—
Papworth St. Agnes	9	—	4	1	4
Rampton	7	—	1	—	6
Shelford, Great	56	34	2	6	14
Shelford, Little	21	14	1	4	2
Stapleford	27	16	2	4	5
Stow-cum-Quy	18	1	1	1	15
Swavesey	22	13	—	—	9
Teversham	8	6	—	—	2
Toft	3	—	—	1	2
Waterbeach	35	12	8	3	12
Westwick	2	—	—	2	—
Wilbraham, Great	10	4	1	3	2
Wilbraham, Little	3	3	—	—	—
Willingham	45	23	8	5	9
Totals	899	416	88	111	284

* 11 purchased by the Council.

5. Temporary Accommodation

The Council now has no families living in hutments or requisitioned property. Apart from temporary emergency accommodation which can sometimes be provided by the County Welfare Department there is little opportunity for the Council to assist eviction cases and otherwise homeless families. Two old cottages at Fulbourn owned by the Council were reconditioned on a short term basis for this purpose but unfortunately continue to be occupied by static families.

There is a desperate need for emergency accommodation which can be made available at short notice and it is to be hoped that consideration will be given to the acquisition of small properties which can be retained for this purpose specifically.

There is no more distressing aspect of the housing problem than this, especially where young children are involved.

6. Improvement Grants (Discretionary)

Since its inception in 1949 the Council has operated this scheme apart from two periods when applications were suspended temporarily owing to the large numbers in hand.

A summary of the action taken since the introduction of the Act (up to 31.3.63) is appended below:—

Total applications for grants received	511
Total applications approved	503
Total applications disapproved	8
Total number of dwellings involved	680
Total cost of approved work (not withdrawn)	£336,625 3 10
Average total cost per dwelling	£495 0 9
Total amount of grant involved	£161,346 14 7
Average amount of grant per dwelling	£237 5 6
Total payments made up to 31.3.63	£143,072 10 11

Approved schemes provided for the following:—

Remedying fundamental defects in the structure of the dwelling	143
Fitting larger windows to improve light and ventilation	164
Laying on internal water supply	143
Installation of hot water system	654
Provision of water closet	574
Provision of bath	610
Provision of sink	226
Provision of new or improved drainage	622
Provision of gas or electric points	571
Installation of new heating appliances	439
Provision of new or improved food stores	297
Provision of solid fuel cooking appliances	161
Provision of fuel stores	111
Additional accommodation	
(a) living room(s)	75
(b) bedroom(s)	50

It is interesting to note that the dwellings included in approved schemes were owned as follows:

Owner-occupiers	304
Small property owners	180
Large individual property owners (exceeding 10)	26
Estates, Property Companies, etc.	170

Improvement Grants (Standard)

This scheme introduced in June, 1959 is generally much simpler than the discretionary grant scheme and every effort is made to publicise it and to encourage owners to take advantage of it. Explanatory leaflets have been sent out with the rate demands to all owners of rented property particularly and every assistance is given to applicants.

The scheme is proving especially appropriate in those villages which have recently been sewered, as in the case of Cottenham. Unless the improvements involve substantial constructional work the standard grant is usually to be preferred since an early decision can be given—the grant being paid on final cost, thereby avoiding the necessity to secure several tenders, etc.

Up to the 31st March, 1963 a total of 375 applications have been received of which 218 have received final approval.

Whilst one would like to see more landlords of rented property taking advantage of the grant schemes there is less opportunity for enforcement in a rural area as seldom are two houses similar in plan—unlike the large cities where one often finds whole streets of identical houses capable of being modernised to a standard pattern.

7. Rent Act, 1957

No applications have been received during the year for certificates of disrepair and in the rural areas at least, this procedure has made little impact on the repair position. A few landlords may have been discouraged from charging the maximum permitted rent for poor properties but fundamentally the procedure available to the tenant is far too complicated and cumbersome for the average tenant to bother with.

No significant repercussions have been noted as a result of the decontrol of small properties under the Act, although naturally the rents charged are much more realistic.

8. Old Peoples' Bungalows

It will be noted from Table No. 7 that the Council has 2,573 houses and only 355 bungalows—mostly post war.

Nevertheless, the necessity for making provision for elderly people is well appreciated by the Council and a high proportion of all new Council properties will be one or two bedroomed bungalows for this purpose.

As mentioned in previous reports, the old peoples' unit of 18 bungalows (and resident warden) erected in 1956 at Histon has proved an unqualified success and plans are in hand to build similar units at Cottenham (22). (in conjunction with an old peoples' home) and Grantchester (25) together with smaller units at Girton (15) and Great Shelford (11).

9. The Remaining Need

The overall position has improved little, if any, since the last report was written. There are still three basic problems remaining:—

The completion of the slum clearance scheme:

There are still approximately 100 families living in condemned houses some of which have had orders on them for as long as three or four years and the recent survey indicates that at least 229 new dwellings will be required for this purpose alone.

The change in the subsidy structure brought about by the Housing Act, 1961 has had an adverse effect generally so far as slum clearance is concerned.

(2) The reduction of the general housing list:

At the 31st March, 1963 the waiting list revealed 910 approved applicants as against 785 in March, 1962. With new house building at less than 20 per annum little improvement can be hoped for even taking into consideration the 70 or so casual vacancies which occur annually. The provision of emergency accommodation for evicted families and similar urgent cases is virtually impossible.

(3) Provision of Accommodation for the Aged

Whilst the Council has indicated its proposals for old peoples' accommodation during the next 10 years (M/H Circular 2/62) and intends to devote a high proportion of its programme to small units of accommodation the present rate of building is not encouraging.

It is quite apparent from the above remarks that a greatly enhanced programme is required in order to meet the ever-increasing demands of the slum clearance programme and the general waiting list. This is unlikely to be achieved unless:

- (1) the present policy of endeavouring to build small numbers of dwellings in every parish is abandoned. This is extremely wasteful in preparation and administration and competitive tenders can seldom be attracted for such small projects.
- (2) the larger sites already held by the Council are developed to the full, e.g. Fulbourn
- (3) a realistic programme is drawn up for the next five years and adhered to so that advance planning and preparation can be planned and co-ordinated with the other Departments concerned and
- (4) a consistent attack is made on the problem of under occupation of existing Council houses.

The establishment of a tenancy selection Committee would also be a distinct advantage at the present time when there are such conflicting demands on any available accommodation.

10. Moveable Dwellings

With the increased rate of private housebuilding and the improving facilities for house purchase, one might reasonably anticipate a reduction in the demand for residential caravan sites, but this has not been the case and, as will be seen from the figures below, some 700 families are living in caravans in this area.

In effect, this represents 4.5% of the total dwellings in the district—a not insignificant percentage. To some extent this is brought about by the fact that there is normally a fairly large floating population in and around the City of Cambridge associated with the University, the Civil Service and military establishments. Accommodation in Cambridge is scarce and expensive and many young couples resort to caravans in the first years of their married life. Since the Council's district entirely surrounds the City it becomes a dormitory area and the demand for good class caravan sites far exceeds the present supply.

The higher standards required by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 has enabled the Council to bring about a substantial improvement in sites generally and the year has been one of steady consolidation in this respect and a recent review revealed the following position, as at 31st December, 1962:—

						<i>No. of Sites</i>	<i>No. of Caravans</i>
Total Licences in force (31.12.62)	..	..	..	..	..	154	697
Permanent Planning Consent	..	..	..	..	..	30	322
Short Term Planning Consent	..	..	..	..	..	124	375
Applications refused on Planning Consent (1962)	..	..	..	..	..	14	213
Applications refused on Planning Consent (Before 1962)	..	..	..	..	..	13	70
Applications awaiting Planning consent	..	..	..	..	..	7	48
Applications awaiting Planning Renewal	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Sites "run down" during the year or no longer required up to 31.12.62	..	..	..	..	..	35	87
Certified Club Sites	..	..	..	..	..	3	—

Once planning consent is granted the Council issues a site licence with a standard set of conditions attached based on the Minister's recommendations and a reasonable period is allowed for the completion of the requisite work—often involving substantial capital outlay.

In the majority of cases the owners have co-operated fully and the necessary site amenities are complete or nearing completion. At the 31st December, 1962 the position was noted as follows:—

In the case of 558 caravans (80% of the total) and 45 sites (29% of the total) W.C's were enforceable according to the Council's licensing conditions

478 caravans had been provided with W.C's representing 69% of the total and 38 sites (25% of the total).

There are 133 caravans (19%) where W.C's cannot be enforced (mostly single caravans). This represents 109 sites (71% of the total).

TABLE NO 2
POST WAR HOUSING
PARISH ALLOCATION

(Houses allocated and completed since the war including those under contract or commenced at 31.3.63)

	Permanent Construction				Temp. Accommodation	
	Allocated		Completed		Allocated	Completed
	Houses	Bungalows and Flats	Houses	Bungalows and Flats	Huts and Prefabs etc.	Huts and Prefabs etc.
Barton	6	—	6	—	—	—
Bourn	54	12	54	12	—	—
Boxworth	4	—	4	—	—	—
Caxton	19	10	19	10	—	—
Comberton	34	28	34	28	—	—
Conington	8	—	8	—	—	—
Coton	50	3	50	3	—	—
Cottenham	76	8	76	8	10	10
Croxton	8	—	8	—	—	—
Dry Drayton	8	14	8	4	—	—
Elsworth	12	—	12	—	—	—
Eltisley	9	—	9	—	—	—
Fen Ditton	24	2	24	2	—	—
Fen Drayton	26	12	20	4	—	—
Fulbourn	70	20	70	20	10	10
Girton	85	20	85	20	—	—
Grantchester	8	—	8	—	—	—
Graveley	14	6	14	6	—	—
Harlton	7	4	7	—	—	—
Harston	58	10	58	10	—	—
Haslingfield	38	20	38	15	—	—
Histon	102	38	102	34	—	—
Horningsea	16	4	16	4	—	—
Impington	36	2	36	2	10	10
Knapwell	6	—	6	—	—	—
Landbeach	14	2	14	2	—	—
Lolworth	8	6	8	6	—	—
Longstanton	26	9	26	9	—	—
Madingley	8	—	8	—	—	—
Milton	28	—	28	—	—	—
Newton	4	4	4	—	—	—
Oakington	24	19	24	19	10	10
Over	22	5	22	5	—	—
Rampton	11	—	11	—	—	—
Shelford, Great	144	42	144	42	10	10
Shelford, Little	22	14	22	14	—	—
Stapleford	10	3	10	—	—	—
Stow-cum-Quy	28	6	28	6	—	—
Swavesey	26	12	26	6	—	—
Teversham	36	26	36	26	—	—
Toft	12	—	12	—	—	—
Waterbeach	53	40	53	40	—	—
Wilbraham, Great	8	—	8	—	—	—
Wilbraham, Little	18	6	18	6	—	—
Willingham	41	21	41	15	—	—
Totals	1,321	428	1,315	378	50	50

Whilst objections have been voiced to the imposition of a uniform set of licensing conditions it has been found in practice to work well and avoids any suggestion of unfair discrimination. Whilst a few small site operators have elected to "run down" their sites rather than face up to the cost of bringing them up to standard, the main problem is still one of planning consent. With an acute shortage of sites it is disappointing to find apparently sound proposals being rejected on planning grounds which otherwise would result in good class sites. Failure in some instances to issue a permanent or at least long term consent renders the task of the Public Health Department more difficult.

In order to relieve the pressure on the available sites somewhat and to cater for emergency cases the Council has recently given authority for the laying out of a residential site for 23 caravans at Haggis Gap, Fulbourn. A ten year planning consent has been given and work is likely to commence during 1963.

Undoubtedly, the modern caravan has a useful contribution to make towards solving some of the more urgent housing problems in the absence of sufficient permanent dwellings. The standard of accommodation and equipment is now very high and if this is coupled with a good class site with adequate sanitary facilities there can be little objection to this type of dwelling, especially for newly-weds, couples out to work and persons who, for one reason or another, are unable to settle permanently in one locality.

Problems inevitably arise, mostly in association with sub-letting—a practice which the department discourages at every opportunity, and eventual overcrowding once the children are born. Some security of tenure, and rent control, is obviously desirable for the caravan dweller as he is extremely vulnerable at present in view of the acute shortage of good sites.

Firm action is also taken where sub-standard, worn out, or inferior caravans are found to be used for all-the-year-round occupation and in several instances such vehicles have been taken out of use as the tenants have been re-housed.

Two site operators have been prosecuted for permitting their land to be used as caravan sites without licenses and in each case the Magistrates took a serious view of the matter and imposed penalties of £15 and £20 plus costs.

WATER SUPPLY

Generally

All fifty-two villages in the Council's area have a mains supply available and no major schemes were carried out during the year.

There are only two statutory water authorities in the area, i.e. The Cambridge Water Company and the Council, although supplies are drawn from as many as ten different sources—far outside the Council's area. Bulk supplies are purchased from the Chesterton and St. Ives Joint Water Board (of which the Council is a constituent member) for distribution within the district.

The task of distribution is extremely complicated and is rendered even more difficult owing to the considerable age of the mains, their inadequate size in relation to present day demands and the almost entire absence of storage reservoirs. There has been little encouragement to carry out major improvement schemes in view of the impending regrouping, although approximately 1½ miles of mains were relaid in the Willingham area during the year where the supply position has been particularly bad.

Regrouping of Water Undertakings

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government as empowered by Section 9 (2) of the Water

TABLE No. 3
WATER SAMPLING YEAR ENDING 31.12.62

Parish	Public Supplies				Private Supplies			
	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
	Chem.	Bac.	Chem.	Bac.	Chem.	Bac.	Chem.	Bac.
Barton	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bourn	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Boxworth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Caldecote	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Caxton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Childerley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Comberton	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Conington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cottenham	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Croxtan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dry Drayton	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Elsworth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eltisley	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fen Ditton	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4
Fen Drayton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fulbourn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Girton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grantchester	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Graveley	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hardwick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlton	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Harston	5	5	—	1	—	—	—	—
Haslingfield	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hauxton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Histon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horningsea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Impington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Knapwell	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Landbeach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lolworth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Longstanton	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madingley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Milton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oakington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over	4	21	1	5	—	1	—	—
Papworth Everard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Papworth St. Agnes	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rampton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shelford, Great	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shelford, Little	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stapleford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stow-cum-Quy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Swavesey	4	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teversham	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Toft	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Waterbeach	4	20	—	1	—	—	—	—
Westwick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilbraham, Great	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilbraham, Little	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Willingham	7	42	3	19	—	—	—	—
Totals	33	122	4	28	—	1	—	8

(Including 5 samples taken for nitrate figure at Willingham)

Act, 1945 finally made the Cambridge Waterworks Order 1962 which came into operation on 12th May, 1962. This Order provides for the Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company taking over the existing water undertakings within the following local authority areas with effect from 1st April, 1963:—

Chesterton Rural District	}	Cambridgeshire
South Cambridgeshire Rural District		
St. Ives Rural District	}	Huntingdonshire
St. Ives Borough and		
Ramsey Urban District		

The Order also extends the Company's area of supply to the added limits. The Council has always recognised the need for regrouping in the interests of efficient administration but the new structure is unusual in that the local authorities involved have been required to surrender their normal functions to a private Company and to accept a situation which denies them the right of direct representation on the controlling body.

However, having made its protest the Council has co-operated with the Company to ensure a smooth transition on the appointed day and meanwhile the Company with their customary efficiency has carried out a great deal of capital work, including new bulk mains and additional storage facilities in order to remedy the existing deficiencies in supply at the earliest possible moment.

Sufficiency of Supply

The problems met with in 1961 were substantially repeated in 1962 for very much the same reasons—i.e. a drought period, excessive demands for horticulture and inadequate mains and storage capacity. Consequently from the end of June until the 30th September it was necessary to prohibit the use of water for purposes other than domestic use and the watering of stock throughout the statutory area of the Council (thirty-eight parishes). The shortage was most acute in the Over/Willingham area which is largely dependent on shallow wells into the river gravels and where the land is used predominantly for intensive horticulture.

Generally speaking, the problems were not occasioned by shortage of water so much as distribution difficulties and lack of pressure, etc. On the normal storage basis of three days' consumption it would be necessary to have reservoirs for some 1½ million gallons in the Council's statutory area—in fact, the actual total capacity is no more than 68,000 gallons.

As previously reported a permanent connection has been made to the trunk main of the Ramsey and St. Ives Joint Water Board in order to supplement the local supplies in the Over/Willingham area and a maximum of 100,000 gallons per day can be afforded in this manner.

No doubt the capital works already in hand by the Cambridge Water Company and those programmed for the early future will ensure adequate domestic supplies although the ever increasing demands of agriculture and horticulture will prove a serious challenge for the future. Now that the question of regrouping has been finally settled more rapid progress should be possible.

Chlorination and Softening

Apart from the small works at Harston (serving approximately 1500 population) all public supplies are chlorinated.

Typical analyses of the various public supplies are shown in Table No. 4. Water supplied from the wells of the Cambridge Water Company is softened before distribution and that from the Harston bore is naturally very soft. All the other supplies are extremely hard. The Chesterton and St. Ives Joint Water Board had, in fact, accepted a contract to supply softening plant at their Kingston and Lordsbridge pumping stations prior to the "Appointed Day." This work is being continued by the Water Company and is likely to be completed in 1963. This will extend substantially the area receiving a softened supply.

The high natural iron content of the water drawn from the greensand, coupled with the lack of adequate storage, has created problems in the past owing to unpleasant taste and smell. Fewer complaints were received during the year as a result of frequent mains flushing.

As previously reported, the Public Analyst has commented strongly on the high nitrate figure obtained from the Willingham well (and occasionally Over) where the water is derived from the river gravels. The figure for the Willingham supply is usually over two parts per 100,000 with a slight seasonal variation with a consequent risk of met-haemoglobinaemia in infants especially. It is reassuring to learn that this well has been withdrawn from supply since the 1st April, 1963 and will only be used in drought periods.

Fluoridation

As will be seen from Table No. 4 the principle sources of supply in the area have a low fluoride estimation varying between .01 and .02 parts per 100,000 and consideration was given to the recommendations of the dental and medical professions that the fluoride content of public supplies should be increased to one part per million to reduce dental caries especially in children. Opposition both national and local has been voiced against this course and since the decision is primarily one for the County Health Authority the Council has so far taken no firm decision. Opinion is still divided even between the local authorities in the County.

Sampling

Regular sampling is carried out throughout the distribution system. Check samples are submitted to the Public Health Laboratories for bacteriological examination and full chemical and bacteriological reports are obtained from the Public Analyst at quarterly intervals.

After the 1st April, 1963 the work of the department will be confined largely to "snap" sampling for presumptive coli from the distribution mains.

The results of sampling in 1962 are shown in Table No. 3.

The unsatisfactory samples for the Willingham public supply were largely occasioned when checking the chlorination of the new mains laid at Rampton End. Others were mostly due to minor bacteriological contamination due to disturbance of mains for tappings, burst, etc., and were quickly remedied.

In the case of private wells yielding unsatisfactory results alternative supplies were arranged or the wells improved.

Typical results of analyses from the five principle sources of supply are set out in the following Table No. 4.

TABLE NO. 4
TYPICAL RESULTS OF ANALYSES OF PUBLIC SUPPLY

Test	Cambridge Water Co.	Willingham Waterworks	Joint Water Board	Harston Waterworks	Over Waterworks
Physical Characters	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Reaction (pH Value)	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.7	7.0
Parts per 100,000					
Chlorine	2.0	3.55	7.65	2.2	3.70
Ammonia (free and saline)	Absent	0.0030	0.0140	0.0482	Absent
Ammonia (albuminoid)	0.0054	0.0080	0.0022	0.0030	0.0132
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C.	0.0396	0.0487	0.0427	0.0416	0.1552
Nitrites	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Nitrates	0.60	1.80	Absent	Absent	0.20
Poisonous Metals	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Bacteriological Examination					
Coliform organisms in 100 mls.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
No. of micro-organisms per ml. developing at 37°C.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
No. of micro-organisms per ml. developing at 21°C.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Maximum Hardness during year (parts per 100,000)	22.6	41.5	36.6	13.4	47.4
Minimum Hardness during year (parts per 100,000)	12.6	40.8	32.2	5.5	16.6
Fluoride Estimation in parts per 100,000	0.010 to 0.015	—	0.010 to 0.021	0.013	—

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE DEPARTMENT YEAR ENDING 31.12.62

Total number of visits made re water supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	359
Total samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	..	196
Samples reported fit:							
(a) public supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	155
(b) private supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Samples reported unfit:							
(a) public supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
(b) private supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Water supplies improved as a result of action by the Department	..	..	..				12

TABLE NO. 5
PIPED WATER SUPPLIES AT 31.3.63

PARISH	Estimated Population Mid 1962	Statutory Authority	No. of Dwellings (Rate Books) 31.3.63	No. of Dwellings Taking Supply (Rated)
Barton	880	C.R.D.C.	293	244
Bourn	810	C.R.D.C.	285	265
Boxworth	190	C.R.D.C.	67	65
Caldecote	420	C.R.D.C.	141	133
Caxton	360	C.R.D.C.	122	122
Childerley	20	C.R.D.C.	7	6
Comberton	900	C.R.D.C.	313	296
Conington	110	C.R.D.C.	45	45
Coton	530	C.W.W.	185	172
Cottenham	2,720	C.R.D.C.	934	923
Croxton	140	C.R.D.C.	66	61
Dry Drayton	470	C.R.D.C.	151	147
Elsworth	490	C.R.D.C.	190	189
Eltisley	280	C.R.D.C.	100	100
Fen Ditton	660	C.W.W.	227	201
Fen Drayton	420	C.R.D.C.	151	146
Fulbourn	3,270†	C.W.W.	776	729
Girton	3,130†	C.W.W.	950	929
Grantchester	480	C.W.W.	170	168
Graveley	180	C.R.D.C.	63	60
Hardwick	470	C.R.D.C.	171	159
Harlton	300	C.R.D.C.	105	100
Harston	1,180	C.R.D.C.	389	382
Haslingfield	860	C.R.D.C.	323	296
Hauxton	510	C.R.D.C.	172	170
Histon	3,430	C.W.W.	1,130	1,118
Horningsea	340	C.R.D.C.	124	116
Impington	1,350	C.W.W.	450	448
Knapwell	100	C.R.D.C.	36	34
Landbeach	670	C.R.D.C.	232	209
Lolworth	100	C.R.D.C.	44	40
Longstanton	1,766	C.R.D.C.	434*	429*
Madingley	220	C.W.W.	68	66
Milton	1,130	C.W.W.	417	354
Newton	320	C.R.D.C.	104	93
Oakington	761†	C.R.D.C.	271	263
Over	1,000	C.R.D.C.	363	345
Papworth Everard	1,141†	C.R.D.C.	281	281
Papworth St. Agnes	50	C.R.D.C.	32	31
Rampton	290	C.R.D.C.	96	94
Shelford, Great	3,860†	C.W.W.	1,326	1,230
Shelford, Little	745	C.W.W.	248	208
Stapleford	1,530	C.W.W.	513	471
Stow-cum-Quy	450	C.R.D.C.	152	138
Swavesey	930	C.R.D.C.	336	330
Teversham	800	C.W.W.	291	231
Toft	380	C.R.D.C.	154	150
Waterbeach	2,996	C.R.D.C.	825**	768**
Westwick	40	C.R.D.C.	14	14
Wilbraham, Great	470	C.W.W.	162	148
Wilbraham, Little	390	C.R.D.C.	136	129
Willingham	1,931†	C.R.D.C.	678	665
Totals	46,970		15,313	14,511 (94.8%)

C.R.D.C. Chesterton Rural District Council.

C.W.W. Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company.

† Including Hospital, College and Institutional residents.

* Including 184 Service Dwellings.

** Including 155 Service Dwellings.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

The Chief Public Health Inspector remains responsible for public cleansing throughout the area and during 1962 the following schedules were operated:—

Weekly

Parish	No. of Houses
Girton	950
Harston	389
Hauxton	172
Histon	1,130
Impington	450
Shelford, Great	1,326
Shelford, Little	248
Stapleford	513
8 Parishes	5,178 houses (33.8 %)

Fortnightly

Parish	No. of Houses	Parish	No. of Houses	Parish	No. of Houses
Barton	293	Fen Drayton	151	Oakington	271
Bourn	285	Fulbourn	776	Over	363
Boxworth	67	Grantchester	170	Papworth Everard	281
Caldecote	141	Graveley	63	Papworth St. Agnes	32
Caxton	122	Hardwick	171	Rampton	96
Childerley	7	Harlton	105	Stow-cum-Quy	152
Comberton	313	Haslingfield	323	Swavesey	336
Conington	45	Horningsea	124	Teversham	291
Coton	185	Knapwell	36	Toft	154
Cottenham	934	Landbeach	232	Waterbeach	825
Croxton	66	Lolworth	44	Westwick	14
Dry Drayton	151	Longstanton	434	Wilbraham, Great	162
Elsworth	190	Madingley	68	Wilbraham, Little	136
Eltisley	100	Milton	417	Willingham	678
Fen Ditton	227	Newton	104		
44 Parishes 10,135 Houses (66.2 %)					

The problem of refuse collection is particularly difficult in an area of this kind for the following reasons:—

- (1) The very large area to be served—174 square miles including 52 villages and a population of 47,000.
- (2) The varying character of the district, which includes the highly urbanised necklace villages surrounding the City of Cambridge and the isolated fen hamlets.
- (3) The increasing rate of development taking place in the district, resulting in the population being increased at the rate of 1,000 per annum.

Inevitably, the cost of any scheme must be high and the expenditure of some £20,000 per annum only permits the provision of a weekly collection in the more urban parishes representing one third of the total houses in the area. The remaining two thirds have a fortnightly collection. The schedules were reviewed in November, 1961 but the Council decided not to increase the frequency of collections at present. One, however, remains very conscious of the short comings of the present service, based as it is upon a kerb side collection. Any attempt to introduce a back door collection in a rural area of this type, however, would undoubtedly raise the cost to an unacceptable level, more especially having regard to the additional rate burden imposed on many householders by the current re-assessments.

The same remarks apply to the use of disposable paper sacks in place of the conventional dustbins. The advantages are obvious but under present legislation the cost to the Council would be prohibitive. A recommendation that these should be introduced for old peoples' units was rejected.

The present collection schedules are carried out by a fleet of six modern diesel engined 16/18 cu. yd. vehicles of the fore and aft tipping type which are giving excellent service. As the refuse becomes lighter and more bulky, however there is always a desire for larger and larger vehicles (or possibly those of the compression type).

The Council is fortunate in having a modern Depot (shared with the Engineers' and Housing Departments) at Oakington, which is some seven miles from the City. Contrary to one's expectations, this does not affect the recruitment of labour and no difficulty has been experienced in this respect. Only the minimum of staff is employed and labour is not available from other sections. Consequently, it is becoming increasingly difficult to avoid cancellation of some collections on Bank Holidays and during staff holidays, notwithstanding the helpful and co-operative attitude of the staff in working overtime.

Mention must also be made of the manner in which the service was maintained during the severe weather prevailing last winter. In spite of the almost unprecedented conditions the schedules were maintained—a great tribute to the staff concerned.

Disposal

To the difficulties of collection outlined above must be added the increasing problem of the disposal of some 14,000 tons of refuse per annum, without nuisance. The area is extremely flat with a high water table and the few available excavations such as disused gravel workings, etc., are almost exhausted or are open to serious objection, often arising from modern development in the vicinity.

At present four tips are in use at Fen Drayton, Landbeach, Haslingfield and Great Wilbraham, which are strategically sited. Little, if any, covering material is available locally and since a very high proportion of the refuse consists of paper and packaging materials, proper controlled tipping would be extremely difficult. In consequence, the refuse is burnt on arrival at the tips and the residue bulldozed and consolidated with the Council's Bristol Duplex machine. This machine being fitted with skate equipment for road transportation visits each tip successively on a weekly schedule. The advantages of this arrangement are many, e.g. conservation of valuable tipping space, freedom from flies and rats and better consolidation, enabling sleeper roads to be dispensed with.

The system, however, is difficult to substantiate in this modern age, especially having regard to the Clean Air Act and the time is fast approaching when a more enlightened method of disposal must be achieved.

The provision of mechanical plant for pre-separation of salvageable materials together with the pulverisation and possibly composting of the remainder seems the likely solution. This could only be achieved, however, on a regional basis or at least by co-operation between two or more adjoining authorities.

The problem is not peculiar to this area by any means and many authorities are finding themselves with little or no tipping space remaining. It is to be hoped that serious thought will be given to the whole question of refuse disposal methods in the light of present day circumstances and the increasing criticism from a more enlightened general public.

All the Council's tips are under the regular surveillance of the Pests Officer and treated if required. No serious infestation was revealed during the year.

Collection of salvage

Whilst it would be of distinct advantage if waste paper, cardboard, etc., could be collected separately and returned to the mills, there has been no significant change in the position as reported last year. The low price offered for baled waste paper and the absence of any guaranteed long-term outlet for it renders recovery quite uneconomical, having regard to the plant and labour involved and the serious fire risk arising from the storage of such material.

Statistics

Briefly, the cost statements for the year ending 31st March, 1963 revealed the following:—

Total mileage travelled	.. .. .	66,253 miles
Cost per mile (excluding loan charges)	.. .. .	13.07 pence
Estimated tons of refuse collected and disposed of	.. .. .	13,835 tons
Estimated net cost per ton (collection and disposal)	.. .. .	£1 6 4½
Estimated number of clearances	.. .. .	532,766
Average cost per clearance	.. .. .	8.2 pence
Average miles per ton	.. .. .	4.7 miles
Average miles per gallon (diesel)	.. .. .	11.3 m.p.g.
Net Annual Cost per 1,000 dwellings	.. .. .	£1193 4 5
Net Annual Cost per 1,000 population	.. .. .	£389 0 2

Cesspool Emptying

Notwithstanding the increasing number of villages served by public sewers this service is still in great demand, especially in those areas where new development has been permitted in advance of public sewers. Two vehicles are operated, one being a new 800 gallon diesel vehicle delivered in February, 1963. The new vehicle is used solely for the casual emptying of private cesspools on a re-chargeable basis. The older one (a 700 gallon petrol vehicle) is retained mainly on Council work, e.g. desludging of small sewage disposal plants, cleansing village drains and catchpits, etc. Both are equipped for night soil collection if required.

The Council's charges for cesspool emptying have not been altered since 1951, despite rising costs, and remain at 35/- minimum plus 15/- for each subsequent load to effect a clearance. This is considerably cheaper than the charges made by local contractors and in peak periods the resources of the department are fully extended.

A summary of the work carried out during the year ending 31st March, 1963 is as follows:—

Actual mileage travelled	.. .. .	23,693 miles
Estimated cost per mile	.. .. .	14.2 pence
Number of clearances made	.. .. .	1,404
Average cost per clearance	.. .. .	£2 7 8
Number of loads disposed of	.. .. .	1,899 loads
Average cost per load	.. .. .	£1 15 2

Disposal of cesspool contents is usually to the public sewers since it is rarely that agricultural land can be used without nuisance or danger to health. This arrangement is not popular with the Engineer since it is difficult to select suitable manholes where ample flow is available and which are sufficiently removed from dwellings to obviate nuisance. In two cases special connectors have been provided to enable the tankers' hose to be coupled direct.

Night Soil Collection

No general collection of night soil is undertaken by the Council but a private firm of contractors offers a service throughout the district at a nominal charge, of approximately 1/9 per clearance. This service is still widely used.

The Council continues to carry out collections in two parishes as follows:—

Waterbeach (approximately 345 pails) by direct labour

Grantchester (approximately 24 pails) by private contract.

The work carried out by the Council's direct labour in the parish of Waterbeach during the year ending 31st March, 1963 was as follows:—

Total bucket clearances	..	..	..	..	..	..	17,940
Estimated cost per clearance	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.5 pence

SWIMMING POOLS

Although there are no public swimming pools in the Council's area the City Authorities operate three open air pools—two of which are chlorinated. An indoor pool in the course of construction is expected to be in operation during 1963.

Several schools in the area have outdoor pools, mostly constructed by voluntary labour through the Parent/Teacher Associations. Girton, Stapleford, Waterbeach and Swavesey are thus provided whilst the Education Authorities have supplied a large package plant type pool for the use of Histon Junior School on an experimental basis. It is understood the Impington Village College and Bourn and Fulbourn Schools are making similar arrangements. The Department is pleased to co-operate and offers advice on suitable chlorination methods and general maintenance. Regular sampling is undertaken. The same facilities are available to builders and householders who are constructing or who own private pools.

All the pools are unheated and use is, therefore, restricted to the warmer summer months. In Stapleford, Waterbeach and Swavesey continuous circulation, filtration and chlorination of the water is carried out, whilst at the Girton Glebe School continuous circulation with filtration only is in use—the chlorine being hand dosed and producing reasonably satisfactory results.

Samples of swimming pool water are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service in Cambridge who examine for the presence of both excremental and non-excremental organisms and in judging the purity of water in the pools tabled below it should be borne in mind that the standard recommended is as follows: no sample should contain any coliform organisms in 100 ml. of water; that 75% of the samples examined from the pool should not exceed 10 colonies and that in the remainder the count should not exceed 100 colonies.

It will be seen from the above that Girton which practices the hand dosing method of chlorination failed to reach the standard obtained by the Histon, Stapleford and Waterbeach pools. Excellent results were obtained from Stapleford which achieves break-point chlorination but Swavesey showed poor results mainly because of faults in design in the circulatory system. It is hoped it will be rectified before the next season opens.

SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31.12.62

Swimming Pools

Swimming Pool	Total Samples Taken	Plate Count Samples not exceeding 10 Colonies	Plate Count Samples not exceeding 100 Colonies	Plate Count Samples exceeding 100 Colonies	Coliform Bacillis Present	Bact. Coli Present
Girton	27	19	8	—	6	4
Histon	15	15	—	—	2	1
Stapleford	8	8	—	—	—	—
Swavesey	21	11	2	8	8	5
Waterbeach	9	8	1	—	4	4
Totals	80	61	11	8	20	14

SHOPS ACTS

The following summary shows the action taken by the Department during the year:—

Total number of shops on Register (31.12.62)	..	..	..	..	301
Inspections recorded	..	..	..	..	518

The Department's responsibility is confined to action under Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950 concerned with the well-being of the persons employed. Adequate ventilation and temperature can be enforced together with the provision of suitable sanitary accommodation for the staff. There is no serious problem in this area since most shops are small and employ few (if any) assistants. Fortunately, the Department is not responsible for the enforcement of hours of closing, etc.

VERMINOUS PERSONS OR PREMISES

The services of the Department are seldom required in this connection nowadays, which is probably due to the general improvement in home conditions, especially in the case of elderly folk living alone. No doubt the welfare services available have played their part in contacting such cases before serious deterioration sets in. Only one house was fumigated during the year.

Occasional requests are received for the fumigation of bedding which can be carried out by arrangement with the City authorities at their modern plant.

The Cleansing Staff is also utilised from time to time to clean up premises vacated by elderly persons and the services of the Pests Officer can always be enlisted if necessary.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The following Table No. 6 shows concisely the position with regard to the sewerage of the area:—

Table No. 6

Progress with Sewerage Schemes

Total number of Parishes in district	..	..	..	..	..	52
Population Registrar General Mid 1962	..	..	..	..	..	46,970
Total number of dwellings (31.3.63)	..	..	..	..	..	15,313

Parishes already Sewered

Parish	Dwellings 31.3.63	Population Mid 1962	Dwellings Connected 31.12.62	
			Council Houses	Private Houses
Cottenham	934	2,720	76	99
Fulbourn	776	3,270	155	428
Girton	950	3,130	146	702
Histon	1,130	3,430	212	779
Impington	450	1,350	86	236
Madingley	68	220	7	20
Milton	417	1,130	57	265
Papworth Everard	281	1,141	—	280
Shelford, Great	1,326	3,860	277	890
Shelford, Little	248	745	36	49
Stapleford	513	1,530	—	245
Teversham	291	800	62	70
12 Parishes	7,384	23,326	1,114	4,063
			70 % of houses already connected	

Parishes where Schemes have been Prepared

Parish	Houses 31.3.63	Population Mid 1962
Harston	389	1,180
Haslingfield	323	860
Hauxton	172	510
Landbeach	232	670
Longstanton	434	1,766
Over	363	1,000
Swavesey	336	930
Waterbeach	825	2,996
Willingham	678	1,931
9 Parishes	3,752	11,843

Parishes where Schemes are in Course of Preparation

Parish	Houses	Population Mid 1962
Comberton	313	900
Coton	185	530
Dry Drayton	151	470
Fen Ditton	227	660
Horningsea	124	340
Oakington	271	761
6 Parishes	1,271	3,661

Progress to date may, therefore, be summarised as follows:—

	No.	% Parishes	Houses	% Houses	Population Mid 1962	%
Parishes Sewered	12	23 %	7,384	48 %	23,326	50 %
Parishes: Schemes Prepared	9	17 %	3,752	24 %	11,843	25 %
Parishes: Schemes in Preparation	6	12 %	1,271	8 %	3,661	8 %
Totals	27	52 %	12,407	80 %	38,830	83 %

During the year the contract for sewerage the parish of Stapleford was completed including a separate contract for several small estates developed since the preparation of the original scheme.

The Cottenham Scheme was substantially completed by December, 1962 and included the provision of free re-connections of all properties previously draining to the old surface water drains. As a result of the original survey 281 properties were considered eligible for free re-connection and 83 were not conceded.

At the time of writing informal enquiries have been held in connection with the schemes for Longstanton, Over, Swavesey and Willingham, and Landbeach and Waterbeach and consent to proceed is anticipated by mid 1963. The scheme for Hauxton, Harston and Haslingfield has been submitted to the Minister (prepared by consultants).

In order to be able to supply formal evidence to the Minister the Department carried out detailed surveys of over 3,000 properties in 9 parishes.

Council Estates

Table No. 7 shows the overall position with regard to drainage on the Council's estates. It will be noted that out of a total of 3,083 houses owned by the Council, 1,287 are connected to public sewers (42 %) and a further 883 (29 %) are connected to private estate sewers. The remaining 29 % are dependent on cesspools or septic tanks. 2,285 dwellings now have water closets (74 %).

During the year the Housing Committee has concentrated on the provision of modern amenities to pre-war Council houses and at 31st March, 1963 the following schemes had been completed:—

Dry Drayton	19 houses	Impington	26 houses
Fen Drayton	6 „	Longstanton	5 „
Fulbourn	51 „	Shelford, Gt.	28 „
Hardwick	16 „	Shelford, Lt.	3 „
Histon	8 „	Waterbeach	11 „

Total 173 houses

The following schemes are in hand or programmed:—

Comberton	32 houses	Shelford, Lt.	28 houses
Cottenham	54 „	Stapleford	39* „
Fulbourn	32 „	Teversham	18 „
Girton	40 „	Waterbeach	16 „
Milton	29 „	(*including 10 post-war houses)	

Total 278 pre-war houses
10 post-war houses.

Drainage and Sewer Connections (Private Dwellings)

The Department remains responsible for the supervision and testing of all new drainage to existing buildings and connections to the public sewers (excluding work in the highway). Drainage of all new properties is the responsibility of the Building Inspectors.

This work represents a high proportion of the Public Health Inspectors' time and involved well over 2,000 visits during the year, in addition to the sanitary surveys carried out in 9 parishes.

Much of the work involves detailed inspection of existing drainage and advising owners re sewer connections, particularly in those parishes where new sewers have been installed recently, such as Cottenham, Stapleford, etc. Every help and assistance from the technical staff is offered to householders and connections are facilitated by the extended payment scheme operated by the Council. In many cases advantage is taken of an improvement grant (either standard or discretionary) to install full scale amenities at the same time. Generally speaking, the extent of this work is only limited by the contractors available to do the work and little compulsion has been necessary at present.

The following Table indicates the total number of houses connected to public sewers (excluding private estate sewers) as at 31.12.62:—

Parish	Council Houses	Private Houses
Cottenham	76	99
Fen Ditton	20	—
Fulbourn	155	428
Girton	146	702
Histon	212	779
Impington	86	236
Madingley	7	20
Milton	57	265
Papworth Everard	—	280
Shelford, Great	277	890
Shelford, Little	36	49
Stapleford	—	245
Teversham	62	70
Totals	1,134	4,063

Out of a total of 15,313 houses in the area over 5,000 are now connected to public sewers and schemes are in hand, or in preparation, for a further 5,000 houses. Having regard to the fact that the provision of main drainage did not commence until after the last war progress to date is not unsatisfactory. The Council is adhering to the programme suggested by the Medical Officer and myself

TABLE NO. 7

TOTAL COUNCIL HOUSES AND SANITARY FACILITIES AVAILABLE AS AT 31st MARCH, 1963

Parishes	Bungalows		Houses			Flats	Others *	Total	Public Sewer	Estate Sewer	Other Means	W.C.	P.C.
	1B	2B	2B	3B	4B								
Barton	—	—	—	35	—	—	—	35	—	6	29	6	29
Bourn	—	12	24	53	3	—	2	94	—	86	8	88	6
Boxworth	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	4	—	—	4	4	—
Caldecote	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Caxton	—	10	8	18	1	—	2	39	—	39	—	39	—
Childerley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Comberton	4	8	8	61	1	16	—	98	—	94	4	62	36
Conington	—	—	—	11	1	—	—	12	—	—	12	8	4
Coton	—	3	—	78	—	8	—	89	—	77	12	77	12
Cottenham	4	12	22	133	3	—	10	184	76	—	108	94	90
Croxton	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	8	8	—
Dry Drayton	4	—	—	33	—	2	—	39	—	23	16	35	4
Elsworth	—	2	—	28	—	—	—	30	—	—	30	12	18
Eltisley	—	—	—	24	1	—	—	25	—	17	8	21	4
Fen Ditton	—	2	8	48	2	—	—	60	20	18	22	38	22
Fen Drayton	4	—	4	20	2	—	11	41	—	30	11	30	11
Fulbourn	12	8	30	125	—	2	12	189	157	—	32	157	32
Girton	8	12	10	110	4	2	—	146	146	—	—	146	—
Grantchester	—	—	2	30	—	2	—	34	—	—	34	8	26
Graveley	4	2	2	17	1	—	—	26	—	26	—	26	—
Hardwick	—	—	—	16	2	—	—	18	—	16	2	16	2
Harlton	—	—	—	27	1	—	—	28	—	—	28	7	21
Harston	—	10	12	85	5	—	—	112	—	68	44	68	44
Haslingfield	—	7	10	52	4	8	—	81	—	53	28	53	28
Hauxton	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	15	—	—	15	—	15
Histon**	24	10	32	144	2	—	—	212	212	—	—	212	—
Horningsea	—	4	6	18	1	—	—	29	—	23	6	23	6
Impington	—	2	6	71	1	—	10	90	78	—	12	86	4
Knapwell	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	6	—	—	6	6	—
Landbeach	—	4	2	41	3	—	—	50	—	24	26	24	26
Lolworth**	6	—	4	3	1	—	—	14	—	14	—	14	—
Longstanton	—	13	6	42	1	2	—	64†	54	—	10	50	14
Madingley	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	7	7	—	—	7	—
Milton	—	—	—	52	3	2	—	57	57	—	—	57	—
Newton	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	20	—	—	20	4	16
Oakington**	8	9	8	47	2	2	10	86	—	46	40	52	34
Over	—	7	6	26	—	—	4	43	—	19	24	31	12
Papworth Everard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Papworth St. Agnes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rampton	—	—	2	14	2	2	—	20	—	12	8	12	8
Shelford, Great	—	26	46	171	2	22	10	277	277	—	—	277	—
Shelford, Little	8	6	4	49	—	—	—	67	39	—	28	39	28
Stapleford	—	—	—	36	3	—	—	39	6	—	33	10	29
Stow-cum-Quy	—	6	8	19	1	—	—	34	—	34	—	34	—
Swavesey	—	6	—	41	2	2	—	51	—	33	18	41	10
Teversham	20	6	13	62	—	—	—	101	62	—	39	63	38
Toft	—	—	4	29	—	—	—	33	—	33	—	33	—
Waterbeach	22	18	10	100	3	4	5	162†	96	10	56	109	53
Westwick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilbraham, Great	—	—	—	27	1	—	—	28	—	—	28	8	20
Wilbraham, Little	—	6	4	21	1	—	—	32	—	24	8	24	8
Willingham	—	16	—	131	4	3	—	154	—	58	96	66	88
Totals	128	227	301	2,206	66	79	76	3,083	1,287	883	913	2,285	798
									42%	29%	29%	74%	26%

* Including Prefab bungalows and Agricultural Houses.

** Including bed/recess bungalows.

† R.A.F. Sewage Works.

in 1960 and subject to the Minister's consent being given, and the necessary capital being made available, there is no reason why the major part of the programme should not be completed within the next ten years.

The Department is still concerned regarding the rapid development taking place in villages near Cambridge in advance of the provision of public sewers.

Most estate developers are prepared to install small disposal plants rather than a number of individual cesspools or septic tanks, but in turn, these plants create something of a problem, since adequate maintenance is difficult to ensure. The Council has so far declined to take over such plants but more recently has agreed to maintain them on a contract basis. This is a step forward bearing in mind the difficulty of finding suitable labour with sufficient knowledge to undertake this work.

There is, however, a growing appreciation of the necessity for good drainage both by prospective house purchasers and the various authorities concerned, with, consequently, a more constructive approach to the problem.

RODENT DESTRUCTION

Under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, the Council is required to survey their district and ensure that rats are destroyed. In fact, a comprehensive pest destruction service is available for both private and Council property throughout the district. For this purpose, a full time Pests Officer is employed together with one Operator both working under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Destruction of rats is undertaken free of charge on all domestic premises and work on business or industrial premises is carried out on a contract or full recovery basis. Work on agricultural premises is usually undertaken by the farmer himself or by one of the servicing firms specialising in this type of work.

The Department is also called upon to deal with the destruction of other pests such as wasps, hornets, bats, moles and fly infestations, etc.

The Council's premises such as refuse tips, sewage works and public watercourses, etc., are under constant supervision and treatment if necessary.

Since the withdrawal of the direct deficiency grant by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food in 1959—the full cost of the service is borne by the general rate less any sum recovered by way of contracts or chargeable works. In fact, the net cost represents approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ rd penny rate since re-valuation (previously 1d. rate). Having regard to the demands made upon the service and the value placed upon it by the residents, the expenditure is well merited.

The staff are based at Oakington Depot, which is fully equipped for mixing baits and poisons. Warfarin is the poison mostly used mixed with wheatmeal or barley meal, purchased in bulk. Zinc phosphide is substituted where thought necessary, although no evidence has so far been revealed of resistance to Warfarin.

There has been no repetition of the sudden influx of rats experienced during the winter of 1961/62 and no serious infestations have been revealed during the year.

Mention must be made of the increasing problem of fly infestation from poultry houses and batteries where egg laying birds are confined on slatted floors over dropping pits, which are seldom cleaned out more than once per year. These conditions encourage rapid breeding of the lesser house fly which can quickly affect many properties in the vicinity. Under these conditions the use of few of the usual insecticides have any effect, although two new insecticides show promising results.

Table No. 8 shows a brief summary of the work carried out for the twelve months ending 31st December, 1962:—

TABLE No. 8

	Local Authority	Type of Property			Total
		Dwellings	Agricultural	Business & Industrial Premises, etc.	
Approximate total number of properties in area	78	15,313	1,000	532	15,923
Properties inspected as a result of notification of infestation	—	574	—	—	574
Properties inspected without notification of infestation	21	7,841	34	167	8,029
Number of properties found to be infested with rats <i>Major</i>	3	13	7	11	27
Number of properties found to be infested with rats <i>Minor</i>	18	837	12	74	929
Number of notices served under Section 4 (treatment)	—	—	—	—	—
Number of “block control” Schemes carried out	—	10	—	—	—

A summary of the results achieved during this period is as follows:—

Total number of rats recovered	3,518
Total estimated kill (12 months)	14,072
Wasps' nests removed	11

Number of premises treated for:—

Mice	42
Beetles and cockroaches	16
Moles	4
Rabbits	1
Flies	4
Bugs and fleas	2

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

There seems to be a common misconception that this Act does not apply in a rural area and the Council has so far declined to adopt the Byelaw provisions of Section 24. Nevertheless, every effort is made to secure compliance with the relevant sections. Byelaw plans are examined where new boiler installations are indicated and applicants encouraged to apply for prior approval. Where necessary the advice of the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service is obtained. Three applications for prior approval were received during the year and one Notice of Intention to Install. Fortunately, in one case where new oil fired boilers were to be installed in factory premises it was possible to secure a chimney height of 90 feet as against the 35 feet proposed.

Smoke observations were made on 19 occasions and informal action taken where necessary. Satisfactory improvement was secured.

One District Inspector is undergoing training for the Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society of Health.

SCHOOLS

Notice to close the village schools at Landbeach and Rampton has been given, although in the case of Rampton School closure has been deferred.

The new Village College at Cottenham is nearing completion and at the time of writing the new Nursery School at Histon has been completed. The new Junior School at Caldecote (to replace that at Childerley Gate) is due to open in mid 1963.

During the year extensions and improvements have been carried out at a number of schools, including Bourn, Landbeach, Longstanton and Newton and work is about to commence on improvement schemes at Fulbourn, Elsworth and Milton.

Hot water installations have been added in the case of Fen Ditton, Over, Papworth Everard and Swavesey schools.

Mention has also been made elsewhere in this report on the growing interest in the provision of small teaching swimming pools—often by parent/teacher associations, aided by a grant from the Education Authority.

The Public Health Inspectors pay routine visits to school meals kitchens and also advise on the fitness of foodstuffs should any doubt arise. The service is under the supervision of a full time School Meals Officer and a high standard is maintained.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1957

Premises registered 31.12.61 1

Only one factory in the area is engaged in the manufacture of new upholstered furniture using the specified materials. No action was necessary during the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1957

There are no premises registered in the area and no markets are held.

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Milk Supply

The district has been an "Attested" area since October, 1959 and the sale of milk by retail is confined to Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised.

The following figures (supplied by courtesy of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) indicate the position in this area at 31.3.63:—

Number of wholesale producers in the area	76
Number of producer/retailers	10
Number of retail purveyors	34

The following is a summary of the year's work under the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Regulations:—

Number of distributors with premises in the area (registered by local authority) ..	19
Visits paid to retail dairies	12

Whilst much of the routine supervision and responsibility for milk production and processing has passed from the local authorities to the Ministry direct or to the appropriate Food and Drugs authorities the Department is still responsible for ensuring that the milk is free from pathogenic organisms and sampling for this purpose is undertaken—mainly from producer/retailers of Tuberculin Tested milk which has not been heat treated.

The results are set out in the following Table:—

MILK SAMPLING 1962

Category	Bacteriological Examination			Biological Examination			
	Samples Taken	No. Passing Test	No. Failing	No. of Samples Submitted	Free from Infection	Positive T.B.	Brucella Abortus
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised T.T.	7	7	—	20	20	—	—
Totals	7	7	—	20	20	—	—

It is satisfactory to note that no evidence of Tuberculosis or Brucella Abortus was revealed during the year.

The Diversion Order made on one source of supply in 1961 continues in force as the herd from which the milk is received is known to be still infected.

Apart from an occasional complaint of stained bottles or "foreign bodies" in the milk associated with large scale mechanical bottling, the milk supply position is quite satisfactory.

BAKEHOUSES

Number of bakehouses on Register 31.12.62	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Inspections recorded	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Premises repaired or improved	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Improved equipment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Redecoration	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

The universal availability of the products of the large multiple bakeries is rendering the task of the small village baker an unenviable one, and few, if any, would survive in the bread trade alone. In this context it is difficult to achieve the standard of premises and equipment which one might like. Every effort is made to maintain hygienic conditions in accordance with the Regulations, although it is perhaps more difficult in this trade than any other. No statutory action has been necessary during the year.

PRESERVED FOOD PREMISES (Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955)

Total number on Register at 31.12.62	..	..	..	..	..	..	193
Sausage manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Fish fryers	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Ice Cream (Sale only)	..	..	..	..	..	..	160

All registered premises comply with the basic requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and only routine visiting has been necessary.

No ice cream is manufactured in the area and supplies are mainly drawn from three national firms (pre-packed). There is, however, a tendency to re-introduce vending machines dispensing soft ice cream of the "cold mix" variety, usually from mobile vans. This type of machine requires scrupulous cleansing if satisfactory results are to be maintained.

FOOD SHOPS, CAFES AND OTHER FOOD PREMISES

The following premises are subject to inspection by the Department, in addition to those premises mentioned elsewhere in the Report:—

Food shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	160
Cafes and Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Licensed Premises (full catering)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Licensed Clubs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Residential establishments, Hospitals, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Factory Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
School Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18

As a result of 779 recorded visits the following improvements have been secured during the year:—

New premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Structural Improvements (new floors, ceilings, wall surfaces, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Installation of wash basins	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Hot water supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
New working surfaces	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
New fittings—refrigerators and refrigerated displays, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Redecoration	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
New sinks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
New drainage and/or sanitary accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12

The improvement in preparation, handling, storage and display of foodstuffs is very marked especially with the advent of pre-packaging, refrigerated displays, etc., and even the small village shop now maintains an excellent standard of hygiene. Whilst the Department has played no small part in this, the major factor is the excellent co-operation enjoyed from the traders concerned.

Apart from an occasional complaint of a product being stale or containing some "foreign body" there has been little need for statutory action during the year. One somewhat flagrant case of a cigarette end in a sherbet sweet was the subject of legal proceedings against the manufacturer who was fined £3 !!!

LICENSED PREMISES

Of the original 155 licensed premises in the area, surveyed in 1946, only 124 now remain in use together with 11 off licence premises.

The general standard of these premises is now very good, especially in so far as toilet accommodation, drainage and glass washing, etc., and the licences of the unsatisfactory houses have been surrendered. In effect, this is the culmination of several years' work by the Department in collaboration with the brewers concerned, who have always been most helpful within the limits of their financial programmes and notwithstanding the frequent "mergers".

During the year 161 visits were paid to such premises and the following improvements noted:

New or improved sanitary accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
New drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Repairs or alterations	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Redecoration	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Improved living quarters	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Improved glass washing	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

The Licensing Act, 1961 now enables local authorities to inspect club premises and object, if necessary, to the granting of a Certificate of Registration. All such premises are inspected at the time of application and the opportunity taken to secure necessary improvements. All the work has been carried out without the necessity for formal objection to be lodged.

Number of registered premises 31.12.62:	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
New or improved sanitary accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
New drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Repairs and/or redecoration	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Handwashing facilities supplied or improved	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Glass washing facilities	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Hot water supply laid on	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

MEAT INSPECTION

Only three slaughterhouses remain licensed in the area since the "Appointed Day". Two are owned by retail butchers and used solely for their own trade. The third one kills for a number of local butchers in the district and also exports a small amount of meat out of the area. All three premises comply fully with the requirements of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958 including the installation of stunning pens and are considered to be excellent examples of modern premises suitable for the small trader.

A full 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered has been maintained during the year and necessitated over 500 visits in the process. No Sunday slaughtering is involved and fortunately, only a small amount of overtime working.

It will be observed from Table No. 9 that there has been a slight decrease in the total number of animals slaughtered during the year, which is accounted for by a decrease in the number of animals killed for export to London. Slaughtering for local needs has increased slightly.

The incidence of Tuberculosis in pigs has remained at 0.3% and no case was revealed in cattle or sheep. There has been a slight increase in the incidence of other diseases or abnormalities in cattle and sheep but it is of no significance having regard to the relatively small numbers involved.

TABLE NO. 9

SUMMARY OF MEAT INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 1962

	Cattle not Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs not Sows	Sows	Sheep Lambs
Animals killed and inspected	668	25	18	2,038	32	3,579
All Diseases except T.B. Whole carcasses and offal condemned	—	1	—	1	1	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	66	3	—	68	4	28
% of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	9.9%	16%	—	3.4%	16%	0.9%
T.B. Only Whole carcasses and offal condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	—	—	—	7	—	—
% of number inspected affected with T.B.	—	—	—	0.3%	—	—
Number of organs or parts condemned—All Diseases						
Head	18	—	—	8	—	1
Lungs	—	—	—	5	—	2
Heart	10	—	—	1	—	1
Liver	37	2	—	58	—	27
Spleen	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diaphragm	2	—	—	—	—	—
Kidney	—	—	—	2	—	—
Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mesentery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	1	—	1	4	1
TOTAL	67	3	—	75	4	32
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned				29 (4.2%)		
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration				11		

Table No. 10 shows clearly the progress made with regard to the eradication of Tuberculosis. Any infection revealed in the slaughterhouses is automatically notified to the Ministry Veterinary Officer for further investigation at the farm of origin.

The incidence of cysticercus bovis shows an increase from 3.7% in 1961 to 4.2% which is above the national average. There seems no satisfactory explanation for this parasitic infection which causes a good deal of inconvenience and loss to the butchers, but since the cystic stage is potentially harmful to man the recommended procedure of cold storage or jointing has to be followed.

Specimens from 15 casualty animals were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year and 4 were found to have pathogenic organisms present (27%).

TABLE NO. 10

SUMMARY OF CARCASSES AND ORGANS CONDEMNED FOR TUBERCULOSIS
for years 1955-62

YEAR	CATTLE				COWS				CALVES				PIGS				SOWS			
	Total Kill	Whole carcasses con-demned	Parts	%	Total Kill	Whole carcasses con-demned	Parts	%	Total Kill	Whole carcasses con-demned	Parts	%	Total Kill	Whole carcasses con-demned	Parts	%	Total Kill	Whole carcasses con-demned	Parts	%
1955	751	2	36	5.05	38	1	1	5.2	10	1	—	10.0	2,758	—	134	4.7	51	—	1	1.96
1956	1,043	1	33	3.2	33	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	3,037	1	67	2.3	31	—	2	6.4
1957	1,036	1	35	3.4	47	—	—	—	56	—	—	—	2,649	—	20	0.75	13	—	—	—
1958	1,139	3	51	4.7	36	—	—	—	58	—	—	—	3,483	—	48	1.35	32	—	—	—
1959	1,039	—	11	1.05	53	—	—	—	70	—	—	—	3,219	—	25	0.77	22	—	—	—
1960	933	—	3	0.32	46	1	—	2.17	47	—	—	—	2,395	—	21	0.88	41	—	—	—
1961	762	—	1	0.1	24	—	—	—	30	—	—	—	2,626	—	9	0.3	58	—	—	—
1962	668	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	2,038	—	7	0.3	32	—	—	—

No action was necessary during the year under the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations.

All three slaughterhouses in the district have been visited by the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and by the Deputy Chief Technical Advisor on Meat Inspection, who expressed satisfaction on the standards attained.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS 1933-58

Licences to slaughter renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
New Licences issued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total on Register 31.12.62	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18

The three slaughterhouses retained in the area all have excellent lairage facilities and comply fully with the Prevention of Cruelty Regulations. Good supervision is exercised by the Inspectors with regard to slaughtering methods and no incident involving cruelty was revealed during the period.

Only one new licence was issued and no training of new slaughtering is taking place in the area. Consequently, the time is approaching when it will be difficult to secure adequate labour for this work. There are no horse slaughtering establishments or knackers yards in the district.

UN SOUND FOOD

The character of the work in this field has changed considerably over the past few years and it is seldom that the Department is called in to deal with grossly unfit foodstuffs. No doubt this has been brought about by the great progress made in the processing, pre-packing, transporting and storage of foodstuffs which is not always appreciated—or at least taken very much for granted—by the general public.

The wider use of refrigeration and refrigerated display cabinets and the enormous increase in the sale of frozen foods has played no small part in this. Nevertheless, such progress brings in its train an increasing need for education both of the public and the traders if the best advantage is to be obtained from these modern methods. One still sees deep freeze cabinets seriously over-loaded or used for products for which they were not intended. Failure to rotate stocks is still fairly common.

Generally speaking, the deliberate sale of diseased or unfit food has virtually been eliminated and the remaining problem is more related to quality control than unfitness. The division between unfitness and “not of the nature, substance or quality demanded” is sometimes very thin indeed and often presents administrative problems in an area such as this where the local authority is not a food and drugs authority.

Although the public is now much more conscious of good food hygiene the number of complaints received on this score is very small and indicates a general appreciation of the high standards achieved.

In any cases of doubt full advantage is taken of the facilities available at the Laboratories of the Public Analyst and the Public Health Laboratory Service, to whom we are indebted for their ready help and advice.

**APPENDIX
FACTORIES ACT, 1961**

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31.12.62

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (Including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	155	85	6	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	61	12	—	—
Total	218	99	6	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	2	2	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	10	10	—	—	—

OUTWORK
(Sections 133 and 134)

	Section 133			Section 134		
Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel Making etc. Cleaning and Washing	18 —	Nil —	Nil —	Nil —	Nil —	Nil —

